

Municipal Elections

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Secretary of State

Overview of Training

- Hodgepodge
 - Federal Compliance
 - Canvassing results
 - Reporting
 - Campaign Finance
- Absentee Ballots
- Affidavit Ballots
- Poll Manager Duties



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Why are you being trained?

- You must be certified to run the election
- You must provide training to the poll workers you hire



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Touch-Screen Voting

- You are not required to use any particular type of voting technology
- Touch-screen voting is utilized in federal elections
- You may use any voting method, but your municipality will bear the cost



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Voter Registration

- A municipal clerk is still a registrar for voter registration.
- Must coordinate with circuit clerk to get voter in SEMS.
- By January 1, 2010, all municipalities must have their voter rolls incorporated into SEMS



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Section 5, Voting Rights Act

Pre-clearance of any changes to the elections process must be pre-approved by the U.S. Department of Justice.



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Section 5, Voting Rights Act

“It is important to understand that Section 5 applies only to changes in practices or procedures affecting voting. Continuous use of a voting practice in effect since the jurisdiction's coverage date does not implicate Section 5, nor does continued use of a practice already pre-cleared under Section 5.”

(http://www.usdoj.gov/crt/voting/sec_5/types.htm)



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USDOJ Pre-Clearance

- Redistricting
- Changing Polling Places
- Modifying the Voting Method (e.g., OMR Scanner to Hand Count)



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USDOJ Pre-Clearance

For more information, please contact:

U.S. Department of Justice, Civil Rights
Division, Voting Section

950 Pennsylvania Ave., NW; Voting
Section, NWB; Washington, DC
20530

Phone: (800) 253-3931

Fax: (202) 307-3961



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Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act (UOCAVA)

- Receive and cast ballots via fax or email
- Ballots must be prepared 45 days prior to election
- Ballots must be transmitted 45 days prior to election if a valid request has been received
- Military personnel have until 10 days prior to election to register to vote
- Federal Postcard Application (FPCA)
- Federal Write In Absentee Ballot (FWAB)



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REGISTRATION AND ABSENTEE BALLOT REQUEST - FEDERAL POST CARD APPLICATION (FPCA)					
APPLICATION FOR STATE OF _____ COUNTY OF _____ CITY OR TOWNSHIP OF _____					
I REQUEST ABSENTEE BALLOTS FOR ALL ELECTIONS IN WHICH I AM ELIGIBLE TO VOTE					
1. APPLICANT INFORMATION (See instruction 1.)			6. POLITICAL PARTY AFFILIATION (This information is required by most states to send you a ballot for primary elections. See instructions.)		
a. TYPED OR PRINTED NAME (Last, First, Middle initial)		b. SEX	c. RACE		
d. DATE OF BIRTH	e. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER	f. OTHER IDENTIFICATION NO. (passport, ID card)			
MM DD YYYY					
2. I LAST VOTED or PLACE OF LAST REGISTRATION (Do not leave this section blank. See instructions.)					
a. YEAR	b. COUNTY, CITY, OR TOWNSHIP	c. STATE	d. VOTER REGISTRATION NO. (if known)		
YYYY					
3. VOTING RESIDENCE (For military, legal residence. For overseas civilians, last residence in U.S. IF USING RURAL ROUTE, SEE INSTRUCTIONS.)			a. LAST DATE OF RESIDENCY		
			MM DD YYYY		
b. NUMBER AND STREET (do not use Post Office Box)					
c. CITY, TOWN OR VILLAGE					
d. STATE					
e. COUNTY OR PARISH			f. ZIP CODE (9-digit, if known)		
4. MAIL ABSENTEE BALLOT TO: (Mailing address where you want the ballot to be sent.)					
5. YOUR FAX NUMBER (If this application is faxed, include all international prefixes. See instructions.)					
			9. WITNESS/NOTARY ADDRESS AND SIGNATURE (If required by state law) DATE SIGNED MM DD YYYY		

The information contained herein is for official use only. Any unauthorized release of this information may be punishable by law.

Standard Form 76A (1-2000)

Canvassing Results

- Election Commissions must “canvass” the results of the election
- Canvassing requires accepting or rejecting affidavit ballots
- Canvassing requires verifying the tallying conducted by the poll workers on election day (hand-count jurisdictions)

Reference:

Miss. Code Ann. §23-15-573



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Recapitulation

- Uniform Reporting
- Completed correctly by Election Commissioners
- ON-TIME Certification!!!
 - Election Commissions-**5 Days** post-election
 - Forward a copy to Secretary of State's Office



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Official Recapitulation		The Municipal Elections Commission will prepare three Official Recapitulation Sheets containing the vote of the entire municipality by wards. They will forward one copy to Eric Clark, Secretary of State, P.O. Box 136, Jackson, MS 39205, file one copy with the Clerk of the Municipality, and keep the third copy for their records.										
Election		Names of Election Precincts										
Votes cast in the City of Wall-Run Elections, Mississippi on the 7th day of June 2004.		WARD 1	WARD 2	WARD 3	WARD 4	WARD 5	TOTAL					
MAYOR												
Candidate A	Party 1											
Candidate B	Party 2											
Candidate C	Party 3											
ALDERMAN, WARD 1												
Candidate A	Party 1											
Candidate B	Party 2											
ALDERMAN, WARD 2												
Candidate A	Party 1											
Candidate B	Party 2											
ALDERMAN, WARD 3												
Candidate A	Party 1											
Candidate B	Party 2											
ALDERMAN, WARD 4												
Candidate A	Party 1											
Candidate B	Party 2											
ALDERMAN, WARD 5												
Candidate A	Party 1											
Candidate B	Party 2											
ALDERMAN, WARD AT-LARGE												
Candidate A	Party 1											
Candidate B	Party 2											

Campaign Finance

- Candidate's campaign finance report ***MUST*** be filed prior to taking office
- Cannot certify until report is filed
- Cannot be paid until report is filed
- Must be reported to the Municipal Clerk

Reference: Miss. Code Ann.

§ 23-15-801 through 23-15-817



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Questions & Answers

**Office of the
Mississippi Secretary of State**

Elections Division

Elections Hotline (800) 829-6786

(601) 359-1350

www.sos.ms.gov



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